

00684.003531



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
KEISUKE MATSUO, et al.)
:)
Application No.: 10/669,333)
:)
Filed: September 25, 2003)
:)
For: INK CONTAINER AND)
RECORDING APPARATUS : February 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Deputy Commissioner's pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, copies of U.S. patents and/or applications are not provided; however, copies of the foreign references are enclosed.

U.S. Patent 6,050,667
U.S. Patent 6,137,503
Europe 1,013,447
Japan 3-187777
Japan 2000-135796
Japan 2001-216873
Japan 2002-1552

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated January 26, 2004, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Moreover, inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents cited above is provided in the European Search Report and by the English language abstracts included with the cited art. The Examiner is, of course, referred to the European Examiner's comments on the English language documents as well.

The European Search Report does not list English language counterparts of any of the Japanese references cited above, but English language abstracts have been located and are enclosed.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

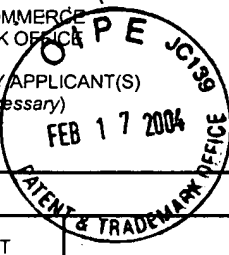
Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003531		APPLICATION NO. 10/669,333	
				APPLICANT KEISUKE MATSUO, et al.			
				FILING DATE September 25, 2003		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,050,667	4/18/00	Yamada	347	19	
		6,137,503	10/24/00	Hashimoto, et al	347	19	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		1,013,447	6/28/00	Europe			
		3-187777	8/15/91	Japan			Abstract
		2000-135796	5/16/00	Japan			Abstract
		2001-216873	8/10/01	Japan			Abstract
		2002-1552	1/8/02	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy, form with next communication to applicant.

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